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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/938,901	08/24/2001	Seiki Kuramitsu	11283-013001	5458
20985	7590	10/21/2004	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON, PC 12390 EL CAMINO REAL SAN DIEGO, CA 92130-2081				MARVICH, MARIA
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		1636		
DATE MAILED: 10/21/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/938,901	KURAMITSU ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Maria B Marvich, PhD	1636	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1,2 and 5-37 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 5-31 and 33-35 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) 1,2,32 and 37 is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 36 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. 1004.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

Detailed Action

This application is in response to an After Final Amendment filed 9/22/04. **The amendment has been entered.** Claims 3 and 4 have been cancelled. Claims 5-31 and 33-35 have been withdrawn. Claim 32 has been amended. Claims 1, 2, 32, 36 and 37 are under examination in this application. Upon further review of the instant claims and specification it is apparent that the application is not in condition for allowance. Therefore, prosecution is reopened. As new grounds of rejection are presented in this action that are not necessitated by applicant's amendment of the claims, this action is non-final.

Specification

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Figure 2 comprises parts A-D and figure 24, parts A-G. However, in the Brief Description of Drawings, the description of figure 2 and 24 does not include a description of the parts.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 36 is vague and indefinite in that the metes and bounds of “an isolated protein encoded by a nucleic acid sequence comprising the sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1” are unclear. The isolated protein is not necessarily that encoded by SEQ ID NO:1 but is any protein encoded by the nucleic acid associated with SEQ ID NO:1. Therefore, the metes and bounds of the claimed protein are unknown.

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 36 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. **This is a new rejection.**

Applicants claim a genus of isolated proteins encoded by a nucleic acid comprising the sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

The written description requirement for genus claims may be satisfied through sufficient description of a representative number of species by actual reduction to practice, reduction to drawings, or by disclosure of relevant identifying characteristics, i.e. structure or other physical and/or chemical properties, by functional characteristics coupled with known or disclosed

correlations between function and structure, or by a combination of such characteristics sufficient to show that the applicant was in possession of the claimed genus.

Applicants recite an isolated protein encoded by a nucleic acid sequence comprising the sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1. The isolated protein can be any protein that is found on a nucleic acid that also comprises SEQ ID NO:1 such as a vector that comprises SEQ ID NO:1. Therefore, the isolated protein can be any protein. This is a broad genus of diverse and unrelated peptides. In the instant case, applicants have only disclosed a peptide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2. Given the diversity and large size of the genus of the isolated proteins recited by the instant claim, it is concluded that the invention must be empirically determined. In an unpredictable art, the disclosure of one species would not represent to the skilled artisan a representative number of species sufficient to show applicants were in possession of claimed genus.

Conclusion

Claim 36 is rejected.

Claim 1, 2, 32 and 37 are allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maria B Marvich, PhD whose telephone number is (571)-272-0774. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (6:30-3:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Remy Yucel, PhD can be reached on (571)-272-0781. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Maria B Marvich, PhD
Examiner
Art Unit 1636

October 18, 2004


GERRY LEFFERS
PRIMARY EXAMINER